

Calendar No. 237

105TH CONGRESS
1ST Session

S. 1231

[Report No. 105-124]

A BILL

To authorize appropriations for fiscal years 1998 and 1999 for the United States Fire Administration, and for other purposes.

OCTOBER 30, 1997

Reported without amendment

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 26, 1997

Mr. FRIST (for himself, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. HOLLINGS, and Mr. ROCKEFELLER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

OCTOBER 30, 1997

Reported by Mr. MCCAIN, without amendment

A BILL

To authorize appropriations for fiscal years 1998 and 1999 for the United States Fire Administration, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “United States Fire
3 Administration Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 1998
4 and 1999”.

5 **SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

6 Section 17(g)(1) of the Federal Fire Prevention and
7 Control Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2216(g)(1)) is amended—

8 (1) by striking “and” at the end of subpara-
9 graph (E);

10 (2) by striking the period at the end of sub-
11 paragraph (F) and inserting a semicolon; and

12 (3) by adding at the end the following:

13 “(G) \$29,664,000 for the fiscal year end-
14 ing September 30, 1998; and

15 “(H) \$30,554,000 for the fiscal year end-
16 ing September 30, 1999.”.

17 **SEC. 3. SUCCESSOR FIRE SAFETY STANDARDS.**

18 The Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974
19 (15 U.S.C. 2201 et seq.) is amended—

20 (1) in section 29(a)(1), by inserting “or any
21 successor standard to that standard” after “Associa-
22 tion Standard 74”;

23 (2) in section 29(a)(2), by inserting “, or any
24 successor standard to that standard” before “,
25 whichever is appropriate,”;

1 (3) in section 29(b)(2), by inserting “, or any
2 successor standard to that standard” after “Associa-
3 tion Standard 13 or 13-R”;

4 (4) in section 31(c)(2)(B)(i), by inserting “or
5 any successor standard to that standard” after “Life
6 Safety Code)”;

7 (5) in section 31(c)(2)(B)(ii), by inserting “or
8 any successor standard to that standard” after “As-
9 sociation Standard 101”.

10 **SEC. 4. TERMINATION OR PRIVATIZATION OF FUNCTIONS.**

11 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days before the
12 termination or transfer to a private sector person or entity
13 of any significant function of the United States Fire Ad-
14 ministration, as described in subsection (b), the Adminis-
15 trator of the United States Fire Administration shall
16 transmit to Congress a report providing notice of that ter-
17 mination or transfer.

18 (b) COVERED TERMINATIONS AND TRANSFERS.—
19 For purposes of subsection (a), a termination or transfer
20 to a person or entity described in that subsection shall
21 be considered to be a termination or transfer of a signifi-
22 cant function of the United States Fire Administration if
23 the termination or transfer—

24 (1) relates to a function of the administration
25 that requires the expenditure of more than 5 percent

1 of the total amount of funds made available by ap-
2 propriations to the Administration; or

3 (2) involves the termination of more than 5 per-
4 cent of the employees of the Administration.

5 **SEC. 5. NOTICE.**

6 (a) MAJOR REORGANIZATION DEFINED.—With re-
7 spect to the United States Fire Administration, the term
8 “major reorganization” means any reorganization of the
9 Administration that involves the reassignment of more
10 than 25 percent of the employees of the administration.

11 (b) NOTICE OF REPROGRAMMING.—If any funds ap-
12 propriated pursuant to the amendments made by this act
13 are subject to a reprogramming action that requires notice
14 to be provided to the committees on appropriations of the
15 Senate and the House of Representatives, notice of that
16 action shall concurrently be provided to the Committee on
17 Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and
18 the Committee on Science of the House of Representa-
19 tives.

20 (c) NOTICE OF REORGANIZATION.—Not later than
21 15 days before any major reorganization of any program,
22 project, or activity of the United States Fire Administra-
23 tion, the Administrator of the United States Fire Adminis-
24 tration shall provide notice to the Committees on Science
25 and Appropriations of the House of Representatives and

1 the Committees on Commerce, Science, and Transpor-
2 tation and Appropriations of the Senate.

3 **SEC. 6. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON THE YEAR 2000 PROBLEM.**

4 With the year 2000 rapidly approaching, it is the
5 sense of Congress that the Administrator of the United
6 States Fire Administration should—

7 (1) give high priority to correcting all 2-digit
8 date-related problems in the computer systems of
9 the United States Fire Administration to ensure
10 that those systems continue to operate effectively in
11 the year 2000 and in subsequent years;

12 (2) as soon as practicable after the date of en-
13 actment of this Act, assess the extent of the risk to
14 the operations of the United States Fire Administra-
15 tion posed by the problems referred to in paragraph
16 (1), and plan and budget for achieving compliance
17 for all of the mission-critical systems of the system
18 by the year 2000; and

19 (3) develop contingency plans for those systems
20 that the United States Fire Administration is unable
21 to correct by the year 2000.

22 **SEC. 7. ENHANCEMENT OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS**
23 **PROGRAMS.**

24 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1 (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-
2 trator” means the Administrator of the United
3 States Fire Administration.

4 (2) EDUCATIONALLY USEFUL FEDERAL EQUIP-
5 MENT.—The term “educationally useful federal
6 equipment” means computers and related peripheral
7 tools and research equipment that is appropriate for
8 use in schools.

9 (3) SCHOOL.—The term “school” means a pub-
10 lic or private educational institution that serves any
11 of the grades of kindergarten through grade 12.

12 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—It is the sense of Congress
14 that the Administrator should, to the greatest extent
15 practicable and in a manner consistent with applica-
16 ble Federal law (including Executive Order No.
17 12999), donate educationally useful Federal equip-
18 ment to schools in order to enhance the science and
19 mathematics programs of those schools.

20 (2) REPORTS.—

21 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year
22 after the date of enactment of this Act, and an-
23 nually thereafter, the Administrator shall pre-
24 pare and submit to the president a report that
25 meets the requirements of this paragraph the

1 President shall submit that report to Congress
2 at the same time as the President submits a
3 budget request to Congress under section
4 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code.

5 (B) CONTENTS OF REPORT.—The report
6 prepared by the Administrator under this para-
7 graph shall describe any donations of education-
8 ally useful Federal equipment to schools made
9 during the period covered by the report.

10 **SEC. 8. REPORT TO CONGRESS.**

11 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
12 date of enactment of this act, the Administrator of the
13 United States Fire Administration (referred to in this sec-
14 tion as the “Administrator”) shall prepare and submit to
15 the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
16 of the Senate and the Committee on Science of the House
17 of Representatives a report that meets the requirements
18 of this section.

19 (b) CONTENTS OF REPORT.—The report under this
20 section shall—

21 (1) examine the risks to firefighters in sup-
22 pressing fires caused by burning tires;

23 (2) address any risks that are uniquely attrib-
24 utable to fires described in paragraph (1), including
25 any risks relating to—

1 (A) exposure to toxic substances (as that
2 term is defined by the Administrator);

3 (B) personal protection;

4 (C) the duration of those fires; and

5 (D) site hazards associated with those
6 fires;

7 (3) identify any special training that may be
8 necessary for firefighters to suppress those fires; and

9 (4) assess how the training referred to in para-
10 graph (3) may be provided by the United States
11 Fire Administration.